

REMARKS

This Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 is responsive to the final Office Action mailed April 3, 2007. A Request for Continued Examination is filed concurrently herewith.

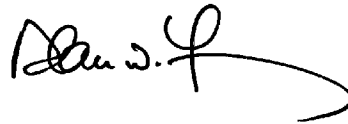
In the final Office Action, claims 22 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112(2). Claims 19-23 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jameson et al. (hereinafter “Jameson”). Claims 24-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jameson in view of Grunitz. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are hereby respectfully requested for the following reasons.

The embodiment of claim 19 includes “an ultrasonically vibrating probe disposed coaxially within the elongate chamber and at least partially into the flow path so as to directly contact and vibrate the material.” Indeed, as claimed, the axis of the probe is transverse (in that it cuts across the axis of flow of the melt material and not specifically at right angles) to the axis of flow of the melt material. In contrast, Jameson teaches an arrangement having an ultrasonic horn disposed **in line with** the flow of the melt material; much like the arrangement of Grunitz relative to the screw of the extruder. For these reasons, it is not believed that the claimed embodiments are taught or suggested by Jameson. Indeed, the person of ordinary skill in the art would not, in any way, be motivated by Jameson and/or Grunitz, to devise an injection moulding tool having “an ultrasonically vibrating probe disposed coaxially within the elongate chamber and at least partially into the flow path **at an angle transverse to the longitudinal axis of said flow path** so **that said probe** directly **contacts** and **vibrates** the material passing through the flow path as the material is being injected.” Jameson clearly teaches that the ultrasonic horn is to be disposed **in line with** the flow of the melt material. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that

Jameson does not teach or suggest the embodiment of amended claim 19 or the embodiments of the claims dependent thereon, whether considered alone or in combination with Grunitz.

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance. If any unresolved issues remain, please contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number indicated below and whatever is necessary to resolve such issues will be done at once.

Respectfully submitted,



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By: _____

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